Highways in Karnataka

2687. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN :

SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plans to convert more State Highways into National Highways in the coming years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the expenditure incurred on the conversion of State Highways and their maintenance in the country especially in the Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Presently, new National Highways are not being declared due to fund constraints.

(c) The expenditure on conversion and maintenance of newly declared National Highways depends upon a number of factors *viz.* width and condition of the road at the time of declaration, terrain, type of soil, number and condition of existing cross drainage structures, traffic intensity etc. An expenditure of Rs. 270.00 crore and Rs. 117.00 crore respectively has been incurred for development and maintenance of National Highways in Karnataka during the last three years.

Upgradation of roads in Gujarat

2688. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Government's request for upgradation of roads of Malia-Jamnagar-Okha-Porbandar-Veraval State Highway is under consideration;

(b) if so, what would be the estimated cost; and

(c) by when the upgradation would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) All the proposals received from the State Government of Gujarat for declaration of state roads as new National Highways have been returned to State

Government. Presently, new National Highways are not being declared due to fund constraints.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Conversion of State Highways into National Highways

2689. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any proposals under Government's consideration for conversion of State Highways into National Highways which were forwarded by Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of National Highways of this State which are proposed to be converted into express highways during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) All the proposals received from the State Government of Gujarat for declaration of state roads as new National Highways have been returned to State Government. Presently, new National Highways are not being declared due to fund constraints.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Problems impeding NHDP

2690. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highways Development Programme inaugurated a few years back to provide connectivity to various parts of the country is progressing as per schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the project is likely to be completed and made operational;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for addressing the problems impeding the project's timely completion?